



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 228**

February Session, 2016

\* SB00228ENV 031416 \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING DAMAGES FOR THE UNLAWFUL KILLING OR  
INJURING OF A COMPANION ANIMAL AND REQUIRING A REPORT  
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CONCERNING THE  
TETHERING OF DOGS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 22-351a of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2016*):

4 (b) Any person who intentionally kills or injures a companion  
5 animal, except in defense of such person or another person or as  
6 otherwise authorized by law, shall be liable to the owner of such  
7 companion animal for economic damages sustained by such owner  
8 including, but not limited to, expenses of veterinary care, the fair  
9 monetary value of the companion animal and burial expenses for the  
10 companion animal. Additionally, the court may award damages, not to  
11 exceed seven thousand five hundred dollars, to the owner of such  
12 companion animal for the loss of companionship of such animal upon  
13 receipt of evidence concerning the length of ownership of such animal,  
14 the use of such animal for companionship purposes and the  
15 disposition or temperament of such companion animal.

16 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2017, the  
17 Commissioner of Agriculture, in consultation with the Chief Animal

18 Control Officer and in accordance with section 11-4a of the general  
19 statutes, shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the  
20 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to domestic  
21 animals concerning the adequacy of the provisions of section 22-350a  
22 of the general statutes in protecting the health and welfare of tethered  
23 or confined dogs in this state. Such report shall include, but not be  
24 limited to, an analysis on the need to amend said section to include a  
25 requirement that any tethered dog have access to adequate shelter, a  
26 description of the components of any such adequate shelter  
27 requirement and any recommendations concerning restrictions on the  
28 duration for tethering or confining a dog in compliance with said  
29 section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	22-351a(b)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*